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IB - 360/63

10 December 1963

Copy 1 of 8

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Resources Division, ORR

ATTENTION :

25X1

THROUGH : Chief, Requirements Branch, Reconnaissance Group, CGS

FROM : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

SUBJECT : Alloy Steel Facilities at Pao-tou and Fu-la-erh-chi, China

REFERENCES : (1) ORR Requirement No. C-RR3-80,742
(2) CIA/PID Project No. C 1548-63

1. This memorandum is in response to the referenced which asks for annotated enlargements and photo analysis of suspected alloy steel facilities at Pao-tou and Fu-la-erh-chi.

2. Reference should be made to pages 14 and 15 of Photographic Interpretation Report, Industrial Complex, Pao-tou, China (NPIC/R-1405/63) which describes this heavy fabrication plant which possibly is the Ping-li-she-cheng Armament Plant.

From the analysis of photography from [redacted] 25X1 one of the buildings at this plant was identified as a probable erection shop. A gap in the photo coverage did not allow a complete analysis of the associated facilities. [redacted] provided complete coverage of 25X1 the plant (See enclosure CIA/PID/IB-P-799/63). Analysis of this coverage revealed an associated gas plant and a far better view of the building and the three large evenly spaced stacks adjacent to the building. This building is now identified as a probable open hearth furnace building which would be capable of producing steel or special alloy steel which would be needed in armaments.

3. Steel Plant and Probable Arsenal. This plant is located immediately southwest of the city along the Nan Cheang (Nonni River) at 47 11N-123 38E (see CIA/PID/IB-P-800/63). [redacted] 25X1 indicates that construction of a large arsenal, complete with steel producing facilities was begun in 1953. 25X1

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major buildings at this plant. The large "L" shaped building consists of furnace or foundry section (item 1a) and a casting section and/or heavy machine shop (item 1b). Special alloy steel could also possibly be produced and cast here. The large multisectional building (item 40) houses reheat furnaces, rolling equipment, forges and heavy machine shop and assembly section. The other two buildings are machine shops/workshops (item 3 and 38). Other facilities include a foundry (item 25) and associated gas plant, numerous shops, warehouses, open storage of coal and scrap metal and a small rail yard. See the enclosure for detailed analysis. The total roof cover of the seven largest production buildings totals 1,365,425 square feet.

The fence or wall could not be traced the entire distance around the plant due to obliquity and photo quality. The plant has a well developed rail and road system. Electric power and steam are supplied from the adjacent Fu-la-erh-chi Heat and Power Plant, TETS.

From the general appearance of the area, the plant has been completed for a number of years. The buildings have an overall dirty, used look and large quantities of raw material such as coal and scrap metal are stored in the open. Two slag dumps, off the photo, typical of those at iron and steel plants indicates that iron or steel has been produced in this industrial complex. The plant currently is at least in partial operation as one stack of the probable open hearth furnace building is emitting smoke, there are numerous rail cars on plant sidings and vehicles are also present.

The four small blast furnaces, with box-like hot stoves, located nearby are typical of the small furnaces built during the "Great Leap Forward". The great difference in those furnaces is the fact that at least one is

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No finished products were observed in the open; however, from the identification of the various components it can be inferred that heavy steel products are produced at this plant. This could include cast, rolled or forged steel and special alloy steel goods such as armor plate, gun barrels, tank hulls and heavy machine parts.

4. The photo analyst on this project was [redacted] who may be contacted on extension 2547 should you have further questions concerning this

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project. This memorandum and enclosures completes this requirement.

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Enclosures:

2 Annotated Photo Enlargements
(CIA/PID/IB-P-799 and 800/63)



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GAS PLANT

PROBABLE OPEN HEARTH FURNACE BUILDING

POSSIBLE PING-LI-SHE-CHENG ARMAMENT PLANT
PAO-TOU, CHINA
40° 41'N - 109° 52'E

25X1
CIA/PID/IB-
P-799/63

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